



# C<sup>3</sup>RS Frequently Asked Questions

For more program information visit  
<http://c3rs.arc.nasa.gov>

## Why is NASA teaming with the FRA in the Confidential Close Call Reporting System program?

NASA has administered a similar and very successful program, the Aviation Safety Reporting System (ASRS), since 1976 and has received over 900,000 reports without ever violating a reporter's confidentiality. NASA is an independent, respected research organization that does not have a regulatory or enforcement interest. It therefore serves as an objective, trustworthy recipient of reports submitted by frontline personnel in the aviation and railroad industries.

## What is considered a close call?

A close call is any condition or event that may have the potential for more serious safety consequences. Some examples of close calls could be, but not limited to, a train in dark territory exceeding its limits, a train missing a temporary speed restriction or a train striking a derail without derailing.

## How does NASA keep my report confidential?

NASA de-identifies all personal and carrier information from a C<sup>3</sup>RS report so that the identity of the reporting employee or anyone mentioned in the report cannot be determined. Dates, times and related information, which could be used to infer an identity, are either generalized or eliminated. Personal information such as names, locations and other identifying information will be removed and the report's identification strip will be returned to the reporter.

## If C<sup>3</sup>RS is confidential, why is the reporter's name required?

It may be necessary for the NASA C<sup>3</sup>RS rail safety analyst to contact a reporter to clarify or obtain additional data for an accurate, detailed understanding of a report. Once the report analysis is completed, the identification strip is removed and mailed to the reporter at the address they provide.

## Are there any conditions under which NASA will reveal my identity?

No. NASA will never reveal the identity of someone making a close call report.

## Can a single close call report be used to cover multiple close calls?

No. A separate close call report is required for each close call event.

## What is the PRT and do they see my close call report?

The PRT is the Peer Review Team for your company. The PRT consists of members of different operating crafts (engineer, trainman, yardmaster) and FRA representatives. The PRT receives your de-identified report summary for review. The PRT may recommend corrective actions for system operations after their independent analysis of the report.

## Where can I find reporting forms?

Postage free reporting forms can be found in convenient locations such as crew rooms and yard offices. Reporting forms can be downloaded and printed at <http://c3rs.arc.nasa.gov/report/mail.html>. You can also submit your report securely online at <http://c3rs.arc.nasa.gov/report/electronic.html>.

